GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2631
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2001
COCONUT PRODUCTION
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH;PUTTASWAMY GOWDA;RAMESH CHENNITHALA;V.M. SUDHEERAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether CDB and ICAR have initiated steps to improve the yield of coconuts per tree in the country;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether the production has been falling regularly;

(d) if so, the facts thereof, State-wise and reasons for low productivity particularly in comparison to international standards;

(e) whether Government have received any proposal of a package project to meet the serious crisis faced by the coconut cultivators; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and steps taken/proposed to be taken?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a) & (b): Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is conducting researchthrough Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI) and State AgriculturalUniversities (SAUs) and has evolved high yielding varieties and hybrids, improvedpackage of cultivation practices, and measures for protection of coconut trees for increasing yield of coconuts per tree. Coconut Development Board (CDB) is implementing following programmes for increasing productivity of coconuts in the country:-

i. Production & distribution of quality planting material;
ii. Cutting & removal of disease advanced palms;
iii. Laying out demonstration plots;
iv. Establishment of organic manuring unit;
v. Management of sporadic incidence of pest & diseases through Integrated Pest Management

(c): The production of coconuts has increased from 12717.3 million nuts in 1997-98 to 14924.8 million nuts in 1998-99. The productivity of 7821 nuts/ha. in India is the highest in the world.

(d): Does not arise.

(e) & (f): The Project Profile on Coconut Technology Mission in Kerala at a totalcost of Rs.992.74 crore for a period of five years was received from Government of Kerala in which six Mini Missions have been proposed.The proposed funding of the project cost is as follows:-

Source	Share of Project cost
1. Government of India	501.44
2. Government of Kerala	5.83
3. Local Body	41.26
4. Promotor's share	139.75
5. Loans	304.47

Total	992.74

The project was examined and the comments of Ministry of Agriculture has been sent to Government of Kerala. The State Government has been requested to modify the proposal accordingly.